

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please add the following abstract as a separate sheet:

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RE-CODING DECODED AUDIO

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An auxiliary data signal is derived from a received compression encoded audio signal during decoding of the signal and communicated with the decoded audio signal for use in re-encoding the signal. The auxiliary data signal may be communicated integrally with the audio signal, for example in the least significant bits, or may follow a different path. The provision of the auxiliary data signal may enable more transparent decoding and re-coding processes to take place, by allowing the coding decisions to match the coding decisions originally used; this can alleviate problems with quality reduction arising from cascaded decoding and re-coding processes. Application is to digital broadcasting in the studio environment with mixing, fading, etc.

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